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## A-DEPENDENCE OF THE INCLUSIVE PRODUCTION OF HADRONS WITH HIGH TRANSVERSE MOMENTA\*

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# A-Dependence of the Inclusive Production of Hadrons with High Transverse Momenta

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We present new data on the A-dependence of the inclusive production of high-transverse-momentum hadrons, both singles and symmetric pairs.

These data qualitatively support the hypothesis that the observed A-dependence results from multiple scattering of quarks and gluons within the target nucleus.

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Approximately ten years ago a Chicago-Princeton collaboration  $^1$  (CP) found that single hadron production at large transverse momentum  $(p_T)$  varies as  $A^\alpha$  with  $\alpha$  >1. Here A is the number of nucleons (atomic weight) in the target nucleus. Early explanations of this collective effect were unsuccessful, partly because of the strong dependence observed on the quantum numbers of the final hadron. Multiple scattering at the quark level, however, can cause a strong quantum number dependence  $^2$ , and recent detailed calculations using constituent multiple scattering have proved reasonably successful in reproducing the observed A-dependence of single mesons and symmetric meson pairs  $^4$ .

We present here single hadron and symmetric hadron pair data from

Fermilab Experiment 605. Our apparatus (Fig. 1) is a magnetic pair spectrometer using drift chambers and multiwire proportional chambers to track particles over an aperture covering approximately 0.5 steradians near 90° in the proton-nucleon center-of-momentum frame. A calorimeter was used to reject background and trigger the experiment on hadrons. A ring-imaging Cherenkov counter was used to identify these hadrons up to mementa of 200 GeV/c over half of the spectrometer aperture. Data were read out using the Nevis Data Transport System and recorded on magnetic tape. Cross sections from these data will be presented elsewhere.

We used the 400 GeV/c primary proton beam at an intensity of typically  $5 \times 10^9$  protons/second incident on the three targets described in Table 1. After traversing the target, noninteracting beam protons and low  $P_T$  secondaries were buried in a dump located in our upstream spectrometer magnet. Positive and negative hadrons with large  $P_T$  were accepted simultaneously, above and below the beam dump. The upstream magnet deflected the remaining low  $P_T$  charged

particles out of the aperture and focused the particles of interest onto our detector. The dump was configured so that neutral particles originating in the target could not exit the upstream magnet.

The dominant singles rates were caused by low energy photons generated presumably by  $\pi^{\circ}$ -initiated showers in the coils of the upstream magnet. Resulting chamber rates were high (up to 50 megahertz per plane) but, through the use of heavy redundancy, tracks were cleanly reconstructed in the presence of our uncorrelated photon background. Each hadron track was defined by 29 projective measurements (18 wire chamber measurements, 5 scintillation counter measurements, 6 calorimeter measurements) in addition to its ring-imaging Cherenkov measurements. Comparison of track momentum (measured using our downstream magnet) to track energy (measured by our calorimeter) indicates that spurious tracks are not present in our data (less than 1% of the sample). This statement is independent of the hadron's  $p_m$ .

The efficiency of each component of our system was measured by observing the fraction of tracks reconstructed with that component missing. On average 15.5 of 18 chambers recorded a hit along a given track whereas our reconstruction algorithm requires a minimum of 12 hits. Our reconstruction efficiency was calculated using the measured efficiency of each element in the reconstruction algorithm. This calculation was checked by a Monte Carlo calculation which indicated that correlations among the chamber inefficiencies are negligible. The reconstruction efficiency remained adequate while the data discussed here were recorded (typically 95% per track). The track reconstruction efficiency is independent of target to an accuracy of a few per cent. Particle yields have been corrected for reconstruction inefficiency on a run by run basis.

We recorded events which exceeded a calorimeter-pulse-height threshold. The efficiency of this trigger requirement was monitored as a function of track position and momentum using prescaled hadron events triggered with a lower threshold. The energy deposited in horizontal segments of the calorimeter was recorded for each track, using analog-to-digital converters. This information was used to calculate the calorimeter trigger efficiency for each event. We have performed the analysis presented here requiring various minimum values of this trigger efficiency. Our results are independent of this minimum value as it ranges from 50% to 95%. Hence we conclude that any target dependence of our trigger efficiency was sufficiently small that it does not affect these results. Our trigger included a scintillation-counter five-fold coincidence in roads, in addition to the calorimeter requirement.

The rate of incident protons interacting in the target was monitored by a 4-counter telescope oriented at 90° in the laboratory frame with respect to the incident beam. The calibration of the relative number of monitor counts expected per incident proton on each target was carried out using a secondary emission monitor (SEM) which was positioned upstream of our target. The targets were thin slabs about 1mm high (Table 1) but much wider than the beam. Typically 70% of the beam passed through the target. This targeting fraction was measured periodically buy moving the target vertically to scan the beam profile. Uncertainties in this procedure affect all  $\alpha$  measurements presented here by less than  $\pm$  .03 (limit of error). Since this uncertainty does not affect point-to-point comparisons (it shifts all measurements of  $\alpha$  by the same amount), we do not include it in the error bars shown below. Data were taken in cycles of the three targets, with a run on each target lasting approximately one hour.

Corrections have been applied for absorption of primary protons and secondary hadrons in the targets.

The three targets have slightly different acceptances and resolutions in  $p_T$  due to their differing lengths and mutiple scattering properties. We have simulated these differences via Monte Carlo methods. Resulting corrections to  $\alpha$ , included below, are generally smaller than 0.01 in magnitude, but become as large as .02 near the edges of our acceptance for the bins shown.

The data from the three targets are consistent with the form

yield/(luminosity per nucleus)  $\approx$  constant x  $A^{\alpha}$ (average  $\chi^2$  = 1.80 for one degree of freedom). In Fig. 2 we show our measurements of  $\alpha$  for  $\pi^+$  and  $K^+$  production, compared to earlier Chicago-Princeton measurements  $^1$ and the calculation of Lev and Petersson<sup>3</sup>. Their constituent-mulitple-scattering (CMS) model does show a rise in  $\alpha$  as  $p_m$  varies from 2 to 4 GeV/c (to an  $\alpha$  value which is affected by regularization of singularities<sup>3</sup>) but does not show the drop suggested by the CP data near  $p_{\tau T}$  = 6 GeV/c. A drop at high  $p_{\rm T}$  seems difficult to reconcile with a CMS explanation9. In Fig 2c, in order to bring as much information as possible to bear on this point, we show  $\alpha$  for all positive  $^{10}$  single hadrons, comparing our results to those of Chicago-Princeton 11 and those of the Columbia-Fermilab-Stony Brook (CFS) group $^4$ . Our data show little or no drop in  $\alpha$  near  $\textbf{p}_{\text{T}}$  = 6 GeV/c. The error bars represent the total point-to-point RMS errors. Note that our systematic normalization uncertainty quoted above and indicated in Fig. 2c could improve the agreement between our results and the CP results to the point of marginal consistency but will not change the shape of our  $\alpha$  versus  $p_{\text{T}}$ curve since we measure the yields from each target at all  $p_{\mathrm{T}}$  values simultaneously (unlike CP).

In comparing our data to CP data we should note that we cover a relatively broad range in center-of-momentum production angle. The bulk of our data are in the range  $-0.3<\cos\theta^*<0.3$  whereas CP data cover  $-0.12<\cos\theta^*<-0.09$ . If we restrict

our data to the range  $-0.1 < \cos 0^* < 0.0$ , the agreement with CP improves slightly as our statistical accuracy deteriorates.

In Fig. 3 we plot  $\alpha$  for  $h^+h^-$  pairs (without regard to particle type) versus mass, in comparison to data from CFS<sup>4</sup>, the Fermilab-Michigan-Purdue (FMP) group<sup>12</sup>, and a recent Serpukhov experiment <sup>13</sup>. Our data points show only statistical errors since these are dominant. A small correction (~3%) has been made to our pair rates to subtract accidentals. All data shown, with the exception of FMP, are consistent with  $\alpha \approx 1$  for hadron pairs (summed over net  $p_T$ ). This result is expected within the CMS model<sup>3</sup> and indicates that symmetric pairs (which dominate the present data) result from single hard constituent collisions. A single collision tends to produce a hadron pair with a net  $p_T$  near 0 since the net  $p_T$  of the pair is limited by the  $p_T$ 's of the incident constituents.

For fixed mass, the CMS picture  $^3$  expects  $\alpha$  for  $h^+h^-$  pairs to rise versus net  $p_T$  as the pair enters the region which can be most easily reached by multiple scatters. The present data are limited in net  $p_T$  due to the acceptance of our upstream magnet. Hence we cannot verify the rise versus net  $p_T$  previously observed by CFS ( who used two seperate spectrometers ). However, if we define  $p_{out}$  for a pair as the component of the lower- $p_T$  hadron's momentum perpendicular both to the beam and the higher- $p_T$  hadron's momentum, we see in Fig. 4 that  $\alpha$  does appear to rise as  $p_{out}$  increases. We expect such a rise  $p_T$  within the CMS picture, because of the limited  $p_T$  of the incident constituents mentioned above.

In summary we have made three measurements which qualitatively support the constituent-multiple-scattering model of the A-dependence of hadron production at high  $p_{\pi}$ :

- (1)  $\alpha$  for single hadrons shows little or no drop as a function of  ${\rm p}_{\rm T}$  over the range 4 <  ${\rm p}_{\rm T}$  < 8 GeV/c.
- (2)  $\alpha$  for  $h^{\dagger}h^{-}$  pairs summed over net  $p_{T}$  is consistent with 1 in the region 8 <mass <12 GeV/c  $^{2}.$
- (3)  $\alpha$  for pairs rises with  $p_{out}$ .

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- 10. These data were taken during our test run, during which the primary beam hit our target at an angle with respect to the spectrometer axis, favoring the acceptance of positive hadrons. The statistical precision of our negative hadron data is poor compared to the precision of our positive data. The statistical precision of our  $\pi^+$  data is poor compared to the precision of our  $\pi^+$  data because our Cherenkov counter only covered half our aperture and was inoperative during a portion of the test run.
- ll. We use  $\alpha$  values and particle ratios quoted in reference 1 to calculate the CP  $\alpha$  values for  $h^+$  shown in Fig. 2c.
- 12. D.A. Finley et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 42, 1031 (1979).
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- 14. A value of  $\alpha$  < 1 at  $p_{out}$  = 0, as favored by our data, is not expected in reference 3. This aspect of our data may favor reference 9.

Table 1. Targets

material	Вe	Cu	W
density (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	1.85	8.96	19.3
length (cm)	10.18	2.578	1.306
height (mm)	0.996	0.914	1.059
A	9.01	63.54	183.8
intergrated luminosity			
per nucleon ( $10^{39} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ )	0.222	0.317	0.276
per nucleus $(10^{41} \text{ cm}^{-2})$	2.46	0.499	0.150

### Figure Captions

- 1. Fermilab Experiment 605.
- 2. The power  $\alpha$  of the A-dependence is plotted versus  $p_T$  for a)  $\pi^+$ , b)  $K^+$  and c)  $h^+$  (all positive hadrons). The curves are from reference 3.
- 3. The power  $\alpha$  of the A-dependence is plotted versus mass for  $h^+h^-$ , unlike-sign dihadrons. All data shown were taken with 400 GeV/c protons incident except the Serpukhov points (70 GeV/c.).
- 4. The power  $\alpha$  of the A-dependence is plotted versus  $p_{\mbox{out}}^{\mbox{}}$  for  $h^+h^-$ , unlike-sign dihadrons.

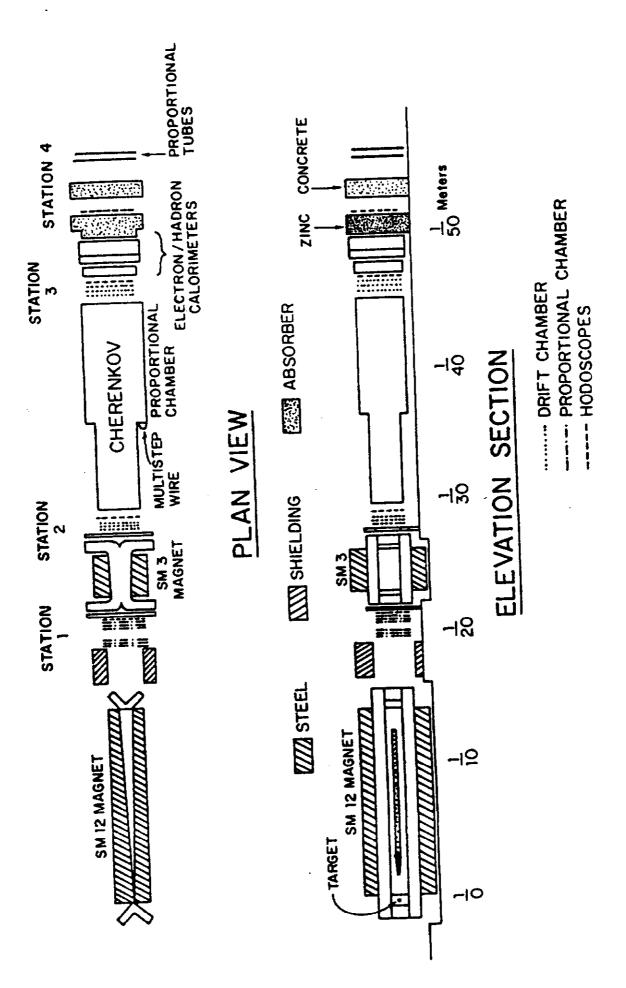


Figure 1

